

Ladies & gentle man
you will not have the pleasure this evening. to
hear a Gough. or a Webster, but has a ~~few~~
Sailors & Speak to you. I will give you some
of my experiences while sailing across the
World. you are aware that my subject this
evening will be on my Ship Wreck and nine
months a Castaway on the Coast of Siberia.
I will try to the best of my knowledge to
make this interesting to all. on the 22th day
of September 1859 on Board the Whaling Bark
Alice Tragar. Commanded by Capt. Walker we
sailed from that Fair City New Bedford
Mass. Bound for the Arctic Ocean after a passage
of ten months we arrived at the City of Ice
Bright. I will pass over my Passage till some
future time. Finding it late in the season
our Capⁿ thought it was best to get in some
milder climate to winter as at this time we
was in the lat^{ude} 70[°] Long^{itude} 110[°] a bough the
middle of August we set sail for the Okhotsk
Sea. this Sea lays in the lat^{ude} 50[°] & 60[°] Long^{itude} 150[°]
the Sea is 400 miles in length and 50 in breadth
after cruising in the Ockⁿ Sea for one month
we found what we supposed to be a safe
harbor for our ship. I will just state
as our object of wintering in that cold
region, the straits that you enter the Ockⁿ
Sea from the Pacific Ocean is very narrow
and in the spring of the year the ice
coming out from the Ockⁿ Sea it some
times gets fast in these channels and

it is some time before it will give
away so as a ship can get through at
the same time if the vessel was in side
of the channel they could have a fine
time with the whals. for at the breaking
up of the ice in the Ock Sea in the
early spring the wails go in this sea by
hundreds from the Pacific that have the
advantage of us for will we half to wait
for the ice to give a way the whail can
go under the ice and make him self
things, this was our object for wintering
in the Ock Sea to be on hand in the
early spring and have our vessel fill
with whale oil before the fleet of
whail ships could get through. ~~there~~
there summer month there is between 300
& 400 ships in that sea cruising for
whales. I will now return to our ship
left her in what we call a safe harbor. it
was in what ~~we~~ call Horse Shoe Bay it
received its name by resembling a horse shoe.
this bay is on the ~~extreme~~ north east corner
of ~~the Ock Sea~~ Siberia in the Ock. Sea. it
^{is 16 miles long and 12 wide}
was in this bay we let go our anchors for
the winter. and commenced to house the
ship. Some may ask what housing the ship
I will explain to you as briefly as possible
striking the ship of all its running rigging
or bending the sails stowing them
between deck leaving a way the Decks
Topsides and yards on deck. hauling a

safe fore and aft of the Ship Speeding over
forming a roof over the main deck. On after
Housing the Ship we Comenated ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~prepar~~ ^{prepar} for
the winter, it is necessary for to take the
water all out of the Ship on account of it
Freezing in the East and Distroying them.
We bring Our water for the Ship use from
the Shore after placing every thing in Order
for the winter, the ice began to make in
the bay and in lest then One week it becom
fine Plainy. in 15 days the hole bay was
frozing Over. the Boys was very anxious for
a Skate the Cap. gave the Carpenters and
Blacksmith permission to make Skates for every
Man this being then we had a golly time for
a while Our fun was soon stopt for we was
viseted with a severe Snow Storme and
Our Skates was Laid one side. On the 25th of
Nov^r the Sea was One vast field of ice as far as
the eye could see it be gam to look like
Direcions times a Coming. Our Cap and affe
and crew Consistted to geather on Bilding
a House on Shore in Case of accidant to
the Ship it was feared if we had a gail
of Wind from the South West it would
drive the ice from the Sea in the bay
and Crush Our vessel to peaces. all hands
was Mustered to go a Shore and Bild a house
and if you ever see Men work with a will it
was at that time we Bilt it after the
Russian Stile One room with a fire place
in the center it was 30 feet Square bilt of

logs and lind in side with Canvas it was
Rathong very Comfortable a lough it I can tell you.
We Completed Our house on the 2nd of Dec^r and was all ready to move our
Grub a Shore on the 3rd. the Masing of
the 3rd proved to be One of the Most
Severe Snow Storms that I ever see
it was inpasable for us to leave the vessel
on that day. We was in hopes on the following
day that we would get something on Shore
We was doom to Disapointment. on the
4th the Gail had increased to a Huracain the
Wind blowing from the North East. it
Snow so fast that it was in pasable port
us to see a ship length from us. it began
to look like harde times a Coming. at 3 o'clock
in the after noon the Cabin Boy came
rushing down from the Main deck shouting
that the Storme was Breaking a way and that
he could see Clear Water a head of the
Ship. all hands rush for the Main deck
to see our Sitation Our Anchors had given
a way and we was at the mercy of the Storm.
the Wind still blowing a Huracain we
had two more Anchors Bent on all sides to
let go the Capten gave orders to let go both
Anchors the ~~Anchors~~ Order was obade
in an instance. Now was the time it try the
Cassage of Sailors. the Anchors fell from
the Cat head on the ice and there they lay
laid the disence from the Cat head to the
Ice was 15 or 16 feet these Anchors weighed

1800 hundred to 2500 lbs fall ^{ing} that distance and never
passing the ice we had to cut holes through the
ice with axes to let the Anchors through,
it was in parable for us to ~~let~~ ^{not} ~~any~~ Stairs
as yet) & do every thing more than what we had
done. Our two Anchor still drag in that a
fast as we had in a Drifting the ice ~~was~~
coming down on us we expected to be crushed
in ~~every~~ 10 or 15 but to pieces every minute. Our Anchor
brought up at last we expected in some Rocks
but our ship had ceased Drifting and now
we was depending on our cables for safety
it was a sight to see those cables saw the
cables of ice as they struck the bows of the
ship. We was well a ware if those cables
parted that we should have to abandon the
vessel as at this time we had no water on board
and very little wood. feeling a snare if we
was drifted to sea in this condition ~~it~~ we
would all perish. With what anxious eyes we
watch those cables cut through the ice in
this situation we was untill the morning of
the 5th When the Storme cleared a way and
we could see where we was. We had Drifted
some 12 miles ~~to~~ Out to sea from the Bay
but a short time ago we was so snug. as
the Storme cleared a way Our tubel had
just come menced looking with an anxious
eye towards the bay we see the whole Field
of ice coming down upon us. it came on
and on untill it struck the vessel and
went Both Anchors it had parted the cables

that we watch ~~so~~ Carefull and Now our last
hope was gone for the Safety of the Ship
Now the Work of saving Our lives Commenced
We had six ~~Small~~ White Boats we lowered
a way and With a will we commenced to
pull With hard tack and Salt Yunk as
much as we dare With Safety for Our
lives. for we was at this time 16 Miles from
the Shore to Begained by these Small Boats
as every thing was prenced & edey we abandoned
the Ship to the mercy of the ice. Drawing
Our Boats ~~from~~ a Croost Cakes of ice untill
we came to clear water we would Launch Our
Boats and Pull untill we come in Contact
With another cake of ice in this way we toiled
untill Mid night ~~of the~~ ore nees day Light
the 6th When we tutch the Shore With Our
Boats. With One Shout Of thanks to allmighty
God we Landed Safely on the ~~as~~ ~~fus~~ ~~ma~~ ~~ria~~
and Now Ladies & Gentlemen as I have giving
you my esperance of Ship wreck ~~it will~~
I will now interduce you on the least
of ~~the~~ Sibeari in which it was my misfortune
to be a cast a way for nine Month. on
Landing of the Boats we Mustard all
hands and With joy all ancerd to there names
the Ship Company Consisted of 32 Men and
now for we had all arrived Safely With the
Exception of One who had the Misfortune
the Reizing his hands. after Draging Our
Luggage up on the Beach. we soon had
the pleasure of Seeing a Comfortable Fire

Siberia Conrick the Sackend Tonggoos and
thad esgeremoos so you see that we had
a vesity to a Boate with as thare was some
few that could talk some English we so
told them our tale of losing our vessel
as we was 32 in number we was divided
one and ² in the harts (this Settlement ~~so~~ thare
was 80 huts and between 300 & 400 inhabitants
and 2 miles from the sea coast the location is on a vas plane
not counting the dogs thare was more dogs then
thare was in holentace) I will now inteduce
you into my home. it was a log hut with
the log heaven smooth on the in side it
was well built every log was inbedded in clay
and mud this house was 20 ft by 15 with
a large oven on one side of the room it
was built of clay. this oven was for heating
the house they bild a fire in it and keep
the fire a burning untill the oven get
very hot and then they clean the fire
Calds off and throw them out dases after
the Cald's have bin taken out they go
up on the scrof of the house and lay a
bag of sand on top of the Chimney
in this way they save all the heat in the house
these huts have from 1 to 2 windows in the
frame is 2 ft square what they use for glass
it is some parts of the Seal they have a
pieces of Manafactory it so it is for are
tight and admets the light. it was a very
small room for the famley as thare was 9 of
us be sides a Cow and Calf in this hut
in this way I lived for ~~2~~ 6 month. I will

State has that our Stages of life consist of
Smoked Salmon and Seal Meat as this
is all that they have to depend on to live on
now I have Describe my home. I will now take
you back and describe the natives. Siberian
Convicts is those that is transported for life from
inland Cities of Russia they are brought
there ~~from~~ and turned laws to pick those
guilty as die just as they please there
Convicts they have fine features but like all
other Russians there are small in stature. The
Esquimaux are a very singular race of people
I suppose there is no weather that can freeze them
they are a very small race their complexion
is a light Copper color with red cheeks
they are noted for their flat face (it to
me my one expression they look to me as soon
as they was bound they was slapt on the
face with a paddle and had made the
face all smooth as they are from 2 or 3 inch
between the eyes and on looking at them in
side view you can not see any nose
it seem to be all even with their face
looking the Tungus represent the North
American Indians there are a tribe that have
never been they wander all over the coast
they occupy their time in Hunting and fishing
their color is a shade darker than the Esquimaux
they wear their hair in a long queue hanging
down their back I have given a descrip-
tion of these tribes, I think without exception
that they are the most filthy set of
people that ever lived on this earth

after becoming a little use to habits of the people
and realizing that this place must be my
home until we could better our selves
I made up my mind that I must eat the
same food that they did determine to keep
up house I went at it with a will. I
will now give you a sample of our
food and how they prepare their staple of
life is Dried Smoked Salmon and Seal
through the winter. on the coast of Siberia
there is small rivers that empty in the
Och Sea in the month of June and July
these Salmon go up these rivers until
they get to fresh water the same as our
Shad go up our rivers in the Spring
they have there nets across these rivers
and in this way they get the Salmon this
work the men do as fast as the fish is
catch the women have their part to do
to prepare them for winter use they cut the
back bone out of them and hang them over
a pole that is in their summer houses to
smoke I will just state here these
people have what they call Summer huts
they are built of logs and are of temporary
a fare they are close to the sea beach
they use these huts ^{from the middle of June till September} until the first of September
and then move back to their winter
quarters. the settlement of Enne is 2 miles
from the sea shore this is their winter
quarters these Salmon are smoked with
out being salted. and after hanging

the fire and smoke for a few days they get
tired tired witch they call a good flavor
after smoked they become dry they sank them
in these summer houses the same as we do
fire wood in our wood houses for winter
the back bones is made up in the same
manor for these dogs as this is all the dogs live
on in the months of September & Oct these summer
come down these rivers to go out to sea as
they are very poor they catch a good money
and carry them in the grain for the winter
there is dug up in the month of Apr & May
and eaten for by this time the smoked fish
is gone when they open these holes there fish
is as natural as when they was put in
as soon as they are out in the air they be-
come to a state that would almost make
you hair stand on a end to think that
you must devour it. but there is no
remedy it is eat that or starve for there
is none in this audience who has bin in that
cold region or in a state of starvation that
can safely say with me that the appetite is to
that extreme that I could eat a dead dog
I have often heard it remarked by some person
before that could eat that they would starve
these people have never had them so at last
were they would be tested. and I hope they never
will. Their Religion is of the Greek Catholic are some
thing worse it is a kind that is to be of the face
of the earth it is worse then Maskey they have
a large church the walls is hung full of pictures

they sepergent the apostills so they say. there is no
seats in theas Church as soon as they go in they
drop up on theas neess and Cross them selves be
for those pictures they have two priests the Big
priest and the small priest the Big priest comes
down from the awlter the Congregation drops
up on theas neess they all half to kiss his
hand he sais something to them in a lang
that they can not under stand. and the door
is closed they can go then to theas home
and go a fishing ore occupy theas time as they
like thes priest is sent from some inland City
by the Russian government they have good clothes
and have flower tea sugar and plenty of
sum ~~sent~~ Brought to them by the trading
Marchent. thes priest have it all theas one
way for they get all the furs of thes inhapers
if they do not come down with the furs they
can not have theas sins pardon. there is no
such thing as a school house fore they are not
to recive eney education they have not the privilage
to lerne to read ore write but kept in ignorance
as long as they live. we had the pleasure of learning
one boy to read the Bible. the priest distrayed
him ore sent him a way from the place
we could not find out what became of him
the priest forbid us of lesing eney other one to
read we ask the reason he told me that
it would make yekkers of them. that is fool
they would soon begin to understand and would
get in liden and they may give them much
trubel would to god they would give the

masive candles on the massing of the

The Russian government have a way of
taking soldiers without Drafting for them every
child that is send every way in there
the elements is taking a way from there has and
the age of 13 years and sent to some in lands
cities and there serve for life Geography says
at the frost on this Coast is several hundred feet
depth I can not vouch for that. but as one
who has dug to the depth of 6 feet and found
black frost yet perhaps it is so there was ~~some~~
one of our ship mates who shot him self
accidently we dug a grave for him in this way
we found out that the frost was 6 ft deep
the middle of January is the shortest days there is
~~between~~ & hours between the rising and setting of
the ^{sun} this makes it long nights I was very
thankful that I could sleep so well I
could sleep until I would wake up with
chills. I all ways forced my self with a
lunch before I turned in to my nest
laying a smoked salmon under my head
I would have it all ready as soon as I was
up after mornig on this for a while I could
sleep for a rather good snore and in this
way I put in ~~6~~^{six} long months in the month
of July and August there is some vegetation
the grass grow to the high of 8 inch turnips
grow to the size of a black walnut potato to the
size of a white walnut this is all the vegetable
that I saw they can get a good deal of hay
help keep their cows through the winter
with help of fish Chaddor. as my time
getting short and you are getting weary I will
give you my adventure to Chook City a distance of 100 mi

a blazing up that made our hearts cheer
up as we was nearly pladed out with fatigue
we soon rize up a kinde of a tent and
as soon as possible we had a large kettle
of coffee a boiling af ter refreshing our selves
we lade down to take a good sleep for we
had nether time to eat more sleep in three
days there was 6 Brave hearted Sailors who
volentered to watch the Fire while the rest of the
crew slept. Wrooling our selves in our
Blankets we was soon in the Lands of Dreams
af ter a refreshing sleep we woke up to realize
what we had gone through and what was to
come. On the morning of ^{the} 1st having a grate
desire to get to the house that we had
built we packed up our traps and started
for our mansion it was 20 Miles from
us on a large Monton. taking as much
provision as we could carry and leaving
the rest in our tent we commence our travel
in this lat^{it} there was ~~five~~ hours between the rising
and the setting of the sun so you see we had
a very short day. by the aid of a compass
we arrived at the house after refreshing
our selves we commence to get up some plan
to ~~go~~ go to the settlement that lay on
the coast it is a settlement call Enia
it was 100 Miles from this ^{our} house and a
momentous Contry to travel over after
our selves for ~~2 or 3~~ ^{few} Days we set out for
City of Enia) (i will state hear that the
measur Settlement to us) there was
Harmin beeing measur than 120 Miles
from us (as we landed) on the morning of the

was all ready for our tramp. the atmosphere
was as clear as crystal, and as bold as
was clear. We ventured out to seek
the settlement. With 4 days grub a
every man and with courage we began
climbed those rugged hills just as it
getting dark we heard a shout from some
of our ship mates who was a little in
advance of us that they see a house and
hands on the hills for it was getting dark and
with fresh courage we soon was at the door
the house was uninhabited it was built of
and fill in with moss & clay a comfortable
we retreated for the travelers. there was singing
there had been some one or other
bin there lately. With the assistance of
the tinder box we soon had a cheerful
fire after refreshing our selves with some
to eat we had a good night sleep and
than started on our journey and
~~traveled in this way~~ (I will just mention
hears that this house was built by the
Russian Government we had hit on the
path that leads to all the settlements
the coast of Siberia. I was informed
of the natives after I had arrived at the
settlement there houses are 60 miles from
the coast all through that section of the
country) traveling in this way three days and
of some night we commenced
till some six of our ship mates
there hands and some shore party
some with fatigue had set down
to die. They had give up at the

of ever reaching the Settlement feeling
as Our Ship Mates it would bring a tear to
k Startest haste that ever breath to see the
lo have fellows lay down and pray for
men tribels to end but thank god those
to Some witch had Cosage and some
m thought of a dear home that they
i to be get. while we was thinking
a Was to be den with our Ship Mates that
na was some still in advance on the
a a hill shooting that they see a nather
ap with what joy we received those tit
st With our help we got them all safe
in the house this proved to be a nom
Russian house. after haveing made them a
comfortful as possible. we though that
er most be getting some ware near the Set
ne with this prospect in view we left them
a our ~~for~~ grub and with our axes we cut
a way to lost them we though untill
R could reach the Settlement and send
th of the Natives with there dog teams after
a them. a bough 30c in the morning all of
to crew that was able to tramp started
m bedding our Comsads good by and give
t them a wasde of Cheas we started on
s journey we halted at noon day and
b started a fire we sat down uneested
as we was a bough a 1/2 mile from the
Coast we Calkelated to fetch the turn
l that night after setting our selves
a short time we kept blost to the
knowing that this Settlement laded
the Coast as we had seen the Se

by we lost the ship ~~travelling~~ travelling
on until dark but we could
the town yet still hoping all the
faint and with nothing to eat we
rest on until some time in the
we see Sparks Flighing in the air
get with a shout of joy we soon had
of hearing a nother shout it came
shote of Dogs they keep up a contin
hailing for a few moments and all
still we had arrived at what we
though the Settlement it proved to be
all Tonggoos Settlement at the same
they was human beings there was
huts in this place in a few moments
was all out doors urging us in their
not knowing their language and they
came with us we was under the notice of
by signs in this way we told
a bough our ship mates we soon
the pleasure of seeing 3 Dogs team
of after our suffers the woman
gived us with a good and substantial
meat it was smoked Sammon I saw sea
refreshing our selves with a good sleep
was Delited to see our ship made
all boat safely to us. the Settlement
was looking for was 10 miles from us
the Tonggoos taking these teams and took
that was not able to walk we started
for the City we arrived at Sun
the Settlement and had the files to
being interested to the inhapers a
Three tribes in all the first